



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
Public Library

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Prizes and Better Skills Await Children, Teens at Library During Summer
Program Kicks Off with Exciting Jousting Event at City Heights/Weingart Branch Library

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego Public Library kicked off its citywide Summer Reading Program today with an exciting event that featured a live jousting tournament with costumed performers on horseback at the City Heights/Weingart Branch Library. More than 1,000 school children participated. The event emphasized this year's themes for Summer Reading Program for children and teens.

The Library's Summer Reading Program officially begins June 15 and continues through Aug. 15. Summer is a great time to pick up a book and continue to improve reading skills, and this year's Summer Reading Program will focus on adventure and fun.

"Reading books is an especially important activity during the summer months with so many students on vacation from school," said City Library Director Anna Tatár. "We invite all children and teens to take part in the Summer Reading Program and discover all the great resources of the San Diego Public Library."

For children up to 12 years old, the theme of the program is "Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds." Kids who read 10 books will receive special prizes, including free admission to the San Diego Aerospace Museum, San Diego Natural History Museum and the San Diego Renaissance Fair. They will also receive coupons for Pizza Hut and Carl's Jr.

The program's theme for teens is "Joust Read." Participants in grades 7-12 can receive prizes for reading books or writing short reviews of library materials and teen programs.

The Summer Reading Program, available at all City libraries, will also include many free special events such as magic shows, music performances, storytelling, arts and crafts projects, and other fun activities.

The Library began the annual Summer Reading Program in 1924. The goals of the program are to keep children and teens reading, learning and improving their reading skills, and stretching their imaginations during the summer. Reading improves literacy and helps students do better in school. Last year, 23,000 children and teens enrolled in the program and more than 38,000 attended program events.

For more details about the free program, fun activities and about how to sign up, contact or visit your local library. More information is also available on the Library's Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/>.

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